

**PATENT APPLICATION
Q-78211**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Kouji ASAKO

Appln. No.: 10/696,570

Group Art Unit: 3653

Confirmation No.: 5920

Filed: October 30, 2003

Examiner: Thomas A. MORRISON

For: PAPER DISCHARGE UNIT AND PRINTING APPARATUS EMPLOYING THE
PAPER DISCHARGE UNIT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after either a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), but before payment of the Issue Fee, and therefore Applicant is submitting herewith a check for the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p), and a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e). The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except

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for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a counterpart Japanese Office Action (without an English translation) showing the date of the Office Action as being February 13, 2007.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant attaches English translations of the relevant portions of each of the three cited references and/or English-language Abstracts thereof. Therefore, no further information is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

/John H. Mion/

John H. Mion
Registration No. 18,879

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037-3213
(202) 663-7901

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

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